Culturable Wasteland

1108. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total area of culturable wasteland in the country which has not been developed so far;

(b) what are the Statewise details of such land; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to develop the wasteland?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) The total area of culturable wasteland in the country has been estimated at 15.45 million hectares by the Ministry of Agriculture.

(b) The Statewise details are contained in the attached Statement (*See* below).

(c) NWDB propose to develop fuelwood and fodder on wastelands by necessary evaluation and modification of ongoing schemes for rural fuelwood plantations, integrated soil and water management in ecologically sensitive Himalayan areas and Decentralised People's Nurseries. Silvi-pasture on individually owned wastelands is also being promoted for fodder cultivation and composite vegetation projects are being encouraged for legumes fuel, fodder and small timber.

Statement

Statewise details of Culturable Wastelands

(*Area in thousand ha.*)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Culturable Wasteland
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	894
2	Assam	107
3	Bihar	418
4	Gujarat	1989
5	Haryana	47
6	Himachal Pradesh	129
7	Jammu & Kashmir	143
8	Karnataka	485
9	Kerala	129
10	Madhya Pradesh	742
11	Maharashtra	987
12	Manipur	—
13	Meghalaya	454
14	Nagaland	62
15	Orissa	245
16	Punjab	33
17	Rajasthan	5741
18	Sikkim	1
19	Tamil Nadu	316
20	Tripura	2
21	Uttar Pradesh	1129
22	West Bengal	176
23	A & N Island	10
24	Arunachal Pradesh	7
25	Chandigarh	(a)
26	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1
27	Delhi	2
28	Goa, Daman, Diu	84
29	Lakshdweep	—
30	Mizoram	74
31	Pondicherry	2
	TOTAL :	15451

SOURCE ; Land Use Statistics published by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India, 1987.

(a)— Below 500 hectares.